

CANADA/US LOBSTER WORKING GROUP  
NEW BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE – ROOM 221  
ST. ANDREWS, NB  
JUNE 6, 2003

CANADIAN PARTICIPANTS:

Roderick A. MacDonald  
F. Gregory Peacock  
Klaus Sonnenberg  
Laurence Cook

US PARTICIPANTS:

Harold Mears  
Terry Stockwell  
Kristan Porter  
Jeremy Cates  
John Drouin  
Robert Ingalls  
W. William Anderson

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome, Introductions and Review of Agenda

DISCUSSIONS:

- Illegal Activities in the Grey Zone.
  - ⇒ The retrieval of confiscated traps and gear from the Grey Zone was discussed. A copy of Canadian procedures will be provided to the US fishers to clarify the process of the retrieving of gear. Procedures will be forwarded at a later date.
  - ⇒ **USA and Canadian fishers agreed that enforcement concerns should be raised with the Steering Committee.**
- Proposed Operational Procedures List.
  - ⇒ The US Working Group Members distributed a Proposed Operational Procedures List. Canadians will identify the items they can or cannot comply with and notify the US members of the expected items they will follow.

- Management Plan - Canadian perspective
  - ⇒ To be forwarded to Harold Mears - US concerns will be taken into consideration.
- Complimentary Plan – Canadian Perception
  - ⇒ The written proposal on Canada's perception for the Complimentary Plan will be sent to Harold Mears the end of July. This plan will be presented to the US industry.
  - ⇒ **USA fishers were advised that a 2003 Canadian lobster fishery will take place beginning June 30. The fleet will consist of 31 vessels using a trap limit of 224 single licence or partnership 336 traps. With not more than 7500 traps total for the fishery. It will be a twelve- (18) week fishery with the CPU monitored. The fishery will be monitored by the use of VMS (boat tracking system) and a Dockside Monitoring Program.**
- Conference Call - Progress of Working Group
  - ⇒ Harold Mears will schedule a conference call (after June 18<sup>th</sup>) to discuss the preparation of a report for presentation to the Steering Committee on the progress of the working group.
- A request was made for Canadian fishers to follow the same whale regulations as US fishers, i.e., using whale safe gear, float ropes (whale compliant under US regulations) and 600 lb., break-away fasteners.